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SN 10/765,475

1 (Currently Amended). Method for the protection of a germinating seed with a pesticide, characterized in that seed-containing pellets and pesticide-containing pellets are sown as individual pellets at the same time and wherein said pesticide-containing pellet comprises ~~an inert core or~~ a killed seed as a core wherein said pesticide is located around said core; and

~~wherein when said core is an inert core, said inert core comprises a glass bead, perlite, plastic or pumice~~

wherein said killed seed is killed by gamma waves or microwaves.

2 (Original). Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets have substantially the same shape and size as the seed-containing pellets.

3 (Previously presented). Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets comprise a dose of pesticide that is sufficient for one seed germ.

4 (Previously presented). Method according to any of the above claim 1, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets contain a filler material.

5 (Previously presented). Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets and the seed-containing pellets have a substantially uniform diameter ranging from 0.5-5 mm.

6. (Canceled).

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7 (Canceled).

8 (Canceled).

9 (Withdrawn). A method for preparing a pesticide-containing pellet wherein said pesticide-containing pellet comprises a killed seed as a core, comprising the steps of:

- killing the seed
- alternating adding coating material and binding solution to provide pellets having a uniform shape and size
- drying the obtained pellets
- coating the dried pellets with a coating-formulation comprising said pesticide, resulting in a thin layer of coating on the outside of said pellet.

10 (Withdrawn). A method for preparing a pesticide-containing pellet wherein said pesticide-containing pellet comprises a killed seed as a core, comprising the steps of:

- killing the seed
- providing a coating solution and a pesticide to said seed, resulting in a layer of film coating on the outside of the killed seed wherein said layer comprises said pesticide.

11 (Withdrawn). A method for preparing a pesticide-containing pellet wherein said pesticide-containing pellet comprises an inert core, comprising the steps of:

- alternating adding coating material and binding solution to provide pellets having a uniform

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shape and size
drying the obtained pellets
coating the dried pellets with a coating-
formulation comprising said pesticide.

10 (New). Method for the protection of a germinating seed with a pesticide, characterized in that seed-containing pellets and pesticide-containing pellets are sown as individual pellets at the same time and wherein said pesticide-containing pellet comprises an a killed seed as a core wherein said pesticide is located around said core;

wherein said killed seed is killed by gamma waves or microwaves;
and

wherein said pesticide-containing pellet and seed-containing pellet are sown at a ratio of 1:1.

11 (New). Method according to claim 10, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets have substantially the same shape and size as the seed-containing pellets.

12 (New). Method according to any of the above claim 10, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets contain a filler material.

13 (New). Method according to claim 10, characterized in that the pesticide-containing pellets and the seed-containing pellets have a substantially uniform diameter ranging from 0.5-5 mm.